

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: JUNE 25 NAC: DISCUSSION OF APAG REPORT

1. IN BRIEF DISCUSSION AT OUTSET OF JUNE 25 NAC DISCUSSION ON APAG REPORT, AMBASSADOR SVART (DENMARK) CONFIRMED DANISH OFFER TO HOST 1976 APAG MEETING DURING LAST WEEK IN MAY "AT A PLACE NORTH OF COPENHAGEN".

2. IN DISCUSSION OF APAG CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, FRENCH CHARGE (DE LA FERRIERE), NOTING STATEMENT IN PARA 10, VOICED TRADITIONAL FRENCH OBJECTION TO CONCEPT THAT RELAXATION OF EAST-WEST TENSIONS MUST BE FOLLOWED BY DETENTE IN MILITARY FIELD.

3. DISCUSSION ALSO FOCUSED ON SEEMING IMBALANCE BETWEEN RISK TO WEST FROM EAST-WEST TRADE IDENTIFIED BY APAG CHAIRMAN AND THE SOMEWHAT MORE OPTIMISTIC ASSESSMENT REGISTERED BY ECONADS IN THEIR STUDY OF THIS SUBJECT. APAG CHAIRMAN (KASTL) SAID HIS REPORT HAD ATTEMPTED LONG-TERM PROJECTION OF EAST-WEST TRADE, BUT DISAGREED THAT IT HAD DONE SO IN A PARTICULARLY NEGATIVE WAY.

4. AMBASSADOR SVART EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH CONCEPT IN PARA 8 OF CHAIRMAN'S REPORT WHICH IDENTIFIES ECONOMIC CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSIDERATIONS AS SUBSERVIENT TO POLITICAL OBJECTIVES IN MARXIST POLICY FORMULATION. SVART, ON BASIS OF LENGTHY SERVICE IN SOVIET UNION, ALSO AGREED WITH APAG FINDING THAT SOVIETS WOULD PREFER LOWER GROWTH RATES THAN REFORM IN

COMMUNIST SYSTEM IF LATTER WERE SET BY WEST AS PRECONDITION FOR CONTINUED PROVISION OF WESTERN TECHNOLOGY. SVART AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT ECONOMIC EXCHANGES REPRESENTED PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT LEVER AVAILABLE TO WEST FOR CHANGE IN MARXIST SOCIETIES.

5. CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED ON THE ROLE OF THE EC COMMISSION AS SPOKESMAN FOR THE NINE IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EAST. THE SOVIETS CONTINUED TO REJECT THIS ROLE FOR THE EC AND FOUND IT EASY ENOUGH TO CONTINUE DEALING WITH EC NATIONS BILATERALLY BY INCORPORATING TRADE TRANSACTIONS IN "ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS" WITH INDIVIDUAL EC COUNTRIES.

6. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM AMBASSADOR THEODOROPOULOS (GREECE), KASTL REPLIED THAT COCOM IS ONLY WESTERN ORGAN THAT REGULARLY DEALS WITH QUESTION OF EASTERN TECHNOLOGICAL DEPENDENCE ON THE WEST. TOPIC, HOWEVER, WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF 1976 NATO ECONADS SYMPOSIUM. DANISH PERMREP NOTED CONSIDERABLE EXPERTISE IN WESTERN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS ABOUT SOVIET INTEREST IN WESTERN COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY.

7. PERMREPS ALSO DISCUSSED "DURABILITY" OF SOVIET COMMITMENT TO EAST-WEST TRADE (PARA 2-D OF REPORT), WITH AMBASSADOR HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS) POINTING OUT SOVIET COMMITMENT WAS SUBJECT TO RAPID CHANGE IF SOVIET POLITICAL GOALS WERE ALTERED. FRENCH CHARGE NOTED RECENT CPSU DECISIONS WHICH SEEMED TO INDICATE LONG-TERM SOVIET PLEDGE TO GREATER EAST-WEST TRADE. BRUCE

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